

An
Historical Sketch
of the
Foreign Missionary
Enterprise
of the
Baptists of the Maritime Provinces.

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A BRIEF HISTORY

OF THE

Foreign Missionary Enterprise

AMONG THE

BAPTISTS OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES

OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

By J. MARCH

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PRELIMINARY.—The Maritime Provinces of the Dominion of Canada cannot boast of their great population, their extended area, or the length of period since they were settled by the race of people now found there. A little more than a century ago their towns were little more than forts, with clusters of houses about them, and their settlements the scattered and limited clearings which a few energetic pioneers had hewn out of the forests to make room for their log cabins and the small fields of grain and vegetables about them.

But they have the right to put forth the plea for general notice, that, for their area, population, and period of existence, they have produced and sent out into almost every department of the world's great workshop, man for man with the most favored people of civilized lands. In three departments is

this especially true. Their sturdy seamen sail their own ships in every sea ; their teachers and public educators fill posts of eminence and influence in almost every land ; and their missionaries have carried the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to their destitute fellows in almost every idol-cursed country on the globe. These things cannot be gainsaid.

Notably is the statement true with regard to missionary enterprise. For its men and women have labored, and are laboring, under the direction of the various missionary boards of this continent and England, on almost every field where earnest, faithful work for Christ is called for. No denomination can claim a monopoly in this regard. Every evangelical body has sent forth its workers to sow the seed of truth and reap the harvest of rejoicing converts of every heathen tongue.

A NOTABLE YEAR.—The year 1892 was the centenary of modern missions. It was also the Foreign Missionary Jubilee year of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, and, further, it was the year in which their independent mission reached its majority. It is fitting therefore, that a brief statement of the rise and progress of the missionary enterprise of this people should be given to the world, in order that our example, faith, and prayers, may be a stimulus to the churches of Jesus Christ in the more extended and united work of christianizing the nations which God has given into the hands of His people of every name of this generation.

ORGANIZATION.—The Foreign Missionary work of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces of the Dominion of Canada is carried on by a Board, which is appointed by a convention of churches meeting annually to discuss and decide upon the work of the body. This Board is incorporated under the Provincial laws, and consists of fifteen members, five of whom retire each year in the order of their appointment, but are eligible for re-election. In addition, the staff of Foreign Missionaries has the privilege of appointing annually one of their number, who may be at home on furlough, to be a member of the Board. In case of the resignation, death or removal of members between the meetings of Convention, the Board has the power to fill vacancies until the next annual gathering of the churches. The Board meets monthly, and five members form a quorum. The seal of the Board bears upon its centre ground a flaming torch, with the inscription : “ *Immortales petimus,*” and beneath it, “ Incorporated 1865.” The field is enclosed with the legend, “ The Foreign Missionary Board of the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces.”

FIELD OF OPERATION.—The field in which the Board carries on its Foreign Missionary operations lies in the northern part of the Presidency of Madras, on the western shore of the Bay of Bengal, from Bimlipatam to near Behrampore, and runs back to the Ghaut Mountains. The people are chiefly Telugus, with a large sprinkling of Ooriyahs, and

tribes of aboriginies on the foot-hills. This field has been occupied since 1875. Previous to that year the missionary interests of the Lower Province Baptists had been centered on Burmah and Siam, on the eastern side of the Bay of Bengal. A brief record of events and circumstances which led up to the change may prove interesting.

SMALL BEGINNINGS.—In the early part of the present century the Baptists of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island were few in number, and weak in influence and worldly possessions; but they were the worthy fathers and mothers of a noble band of heroes and heroines, who, in later years, have gone forth from these shores into all lands preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom.

THE FIRST SPARK.—In the year 1814 there were only twenty-five Baptist churches, with a membership of fifteen hundred in the whole region from Maine to Labrador: and yet, in that year, the delegates of these churches met as an Association at Chester, Nova Scotia, and during the sessions, laid the foundations for the present extended work in Foreign Missions. The record is simple, but significant: "A contribution was made for the poor heathen, to be sent to the Treasurer of the Auxiliary Bible Society at Halifax. Amount received, £8 13s. od." (\$34.60).

A GROWING FLAME.—Doubtless this admirable beginning of Missionary effort was not allowed to flag; for, although we find no record of subsequent

offerings for some years, the spirit of missions had so taken hold of the affections of those scattered people that in 1832 the letters from the churches to the Association contain such expressions as the following :

"A number of the sisters of the church have united themselves into a Society to raise funds for the Baptist Mission in Burmah, and the sum of £33 (\$132) has been already donated to this noble object."

"A Foreign Mission Society and Female Mite Society have been established among the brethren of the institution (Horton Academy), and the latter has collected \$50 in aid of the Burman Missions."

"The Missionary flame has been kindled in the hearts of the members of the church, and their ardent prayer is that it may never be extinguished."

"The object of Foreign Missions has for some time past seriously engaged the attention of many."

"A Female Mite Society has been formed and £16 (\$64) have been contributed to the Burman Mission."

AN APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION.—After reading such reports, it is not surprising to find that at this same gathering it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association be presented to His Excellency Sir Archibald Campbell, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, for his benevolent, humane, and Christian conduct to the Baptist missionaries and other Christian captives in Burmah, at the time he commanded the British forces during the war with the

Burmese ; and that Brother E. A. Crawley* be appointed to address his Excellency on this subject.

DUTY RECOGNIZED.—At this date, 1832, the records show the number of churches to be 44 ; ordained ministers, 31 ; membership, 3,633.

Six years later, at the same place where the first collection was taken "for the poor heathen," the Association, by resolution,—in which was set forth the lamentable condition of the heathen world, the imperative duty of Christians to send them the word of life, the special command of the Saviour, "Go, teach all nations," and the pecuniary needs for carrying on such a work,—formed themselves into a "United Society for the maintenance of Foreign Missions." They further pledged themselves and the churches they represented to educate and support a missionary on the foreign field, as soon as a man of suitable character should be found. The total reported membership at this date was 5,608.

THE FIRST MISSIONARY—R. E. BURPEE.—With such desires and determinations the brethren had not long to wait. At the next meeting, in 1839, the churches were informed that the Missionary Committee had had before them Brother E. R. Burpee as a candidate for missionary labor, and asked that the means for his education and support might be sent to them by the brethren in the churches.

*The late Dr. Crawley, one of the founders of Acadia College.

In 1841 the Foreign Missionary Board was directed to select a field for the establishment of a mission and to look out for another missionary to go with Mr. Burpee when he should be ready to leave. In 1845, after completing his studies in Acadia College, Rev. E. R. Burpee left with his young wife for Farther India. They were stationed at Mergui, and gave themselves at once to labor among the Karens. Eminently calculated were these gentle Christian missionaries to win the affections of that people, and their success was assured from the first.

But Brother Burpee's health soon failed, and he was compelled to remove to Akyab, in Arracan. For four years he devoted himself earnestly to the work of teaching the people of the love of God, the Almighty Father, as shown in the person and sacrifice of His Son Jesus Christ, and then, broken in health, returned home. A brief visit to the churches, which greatly stimulated missionary zeal, followed; and then, while on a visit to Florida to escape the rigors of the winter of 1853, he peacefully passed to his reward.

“BURMAH FOR CHRIST.”—The study of Judson's life, labors, and sufferings among the Burmese had, doubtless, aroused a deep interest in that people, among the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, and the missionary zeal, once awakened could never again be allowed to falter. The Board had chosen Burmah as their field, and thenceforward for nearly a generation “Burmah for Christ” was the watch-

word. How deep and lasting a hold it took on Baptist hearts may be illustrated by the remarks which fell from the lips of a good man not long ago. After listening to the prayer of a minister for the spread of the Gospel among the Telugus, he remarked: "It is hard to realize yet that our special work is on the western side of the Bay of Bengal. When we pray we say, 'God bless Telugu land,' but we mean, 'God bless Burmah,' just the same as ever."

So Burmah was on their hearts. They had sent out a man. God had blessed and prospered him; then sent him back home to tell of souls won for Christ; and of the great white harvest field ripe for the sickle; and then called him to his reward. Meanwhile, prayers and money had been offered by the churches scattered along the shores and through the valleys of the provinces by the sea, and, as the pioneer missionary fell, another rose to take his place.

THE SECOND MISSIONARY—A. R. R. CRAWLEY.—Arthur R. R. Crawley, of Sydney, Cape Breton, who, at nineteen years of age, had graduated from Acadia College, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, and at twenty-one, had completed his theological course at Newton Seminary, Mass., was accepted and approved by Convention as their missionary to Burmah. The Convention decided that not less than two missionaries should be sent out at a time to occupy, jointly, the field of operation. This action was the occasion

of some difficulties, and fears were entertained that an independent mission could not be sustained. Moreover, no other family was ready to go. Bro. Crawley, therefore accepted an engagement under the auspices of the American Baptist Missionary Union, in December, 1853, and for twenty-three years did yeoman's service for the Master on the foreign field.

To this missionary was entrusted the funds which the Baptists raised for the support of native preachers and helpers, and to him they were chiefly indebted for the careful and wise expenditure of the same until the establishment of an independent mission in 1871. He died on board the steamer "Irrawadi," on October 9th, 1876, just before that vessel reached Liverpool, England, and was buried at Birkenhead.

GROWING INTEREST—ANOTHER CANDIDATE.—Through the years which had intervened the people had been growing more and more interested in foreign missions, and the question of an independent mission was being constantly discussed. At one time it was thought that Arracan should be chosen as the field. This proposition came from the Missionary Union. But the fate of Burpee, the warnings of Crawley as to its unhealthfulness, and the depressing effect upon the new interest in the home churches which would be caused by further loss of men there, gave occasion for the matter to be again put off. Funds had been greatly increased, and the call was for men and a field. In 1864 it seemed as

if the longed-for time had come. A locality near that of Brother Crawley, at Henthada, was believed to be available, and Rev. Joseph F. Kempton, a graduate of Acadia College, presented himself to the Board for appointment as their missionary. But, alas! a board of medical examiners reported the young man to be disqualified as a missionary in a warm climate, on account of organic disease. A further check was thereby given to the idea of a mission to the heathen under the separate charge and control of the Lower Province Baptists.

1867. THE FIRST UNMARRIED FEMALE MISSIONARY — MISS M. B. DEWOLFE.—In 1867, the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces were supporting twenty native preachers, a number of schools and two Bible women. They were also contributing \$600 to the Missionary Union, towards the support of Brother Crawley. Greatly renewed interest was awakened at the Convention this year, because Miss Minnie B. DeWolfe, of Halifax, had offered herself as a missionary to heathen women, and was accepted. Miss DeWolf sailed that autumn with Mrs. Van Meter, and took up her work first among the Sgau Karens, at Bassein, and, later, at Henthada. She was the first unmarried female missionary ever sent to the foreign field from this country.

RELATIONS WITH THE A. B. M. UNION.—The spirit of the relations existing at this time between the Maritime Baptists and the American Baptist Missionary Union is well illustrated by the

following words of the Rev. Dr. Murdock, Secretary of the A. B. M. U., spoken in a meeting of the Baptist Convention, held at the City of Fredericton, New Brunswick. He said :

“ We have not adopted Miss DeWolf. We have not been disposed to take one jewel from your crown, or one gem from your choice treasures. We have felt assured that you would sustain Miss DeWolf. We have given her our sympathy and hospitality. No restrictions will be placed by us upon her movements. She can go where she will or where you may send her. We wish you had fifty such ladies to put into the field. We will adopt her whenever you ask us. Our hospitality is extended to you as long as you will accept it, and when you go forth from us you shall receive our sympathy and our prayers, and we will give you the blessing of God.”

1869. REV. W. GEORGE.—In 1869 the question of independence was again discussed at the gatherings of the denomination, but no decision was reached, save to continue to act through the American Baptist Missionary Union. The Rev. William George and his wife were appointed as their missionaries, to be supported by the churches, but controlled by the American Board. This arrangement continued until 1872. Brother George was located at Zeegong, and labored faithfully (with an interval of rest at home) until his death in 1886.

1870. QUESTION OF INDEPENDENT MISSION SETTLED—A NEW ELEMENT.—The year 1870 appears to have been the date upon which the question of independence in missions was to be virtually set-

tled, and settled by the introduction of an element which heretofore had not been much counted on, but which, under God, was to leaven the whole lump of Christian workers in the Church, not only in the Maritime Provinces, but throughout christendom. That element was woman's work in missions and the establishment of Woman's Missionary Aid Societies as the centres where strength and power should be developed at home for successfully attacking the centres of heathenism abroad.

W. M. A. SOCIETIES.—MISS H. M. NORRIS, PIONEER ORGANIZER.—The pioneer organizer of this movement which has become such a mighty power for good, — was Miss H. Maria Norris, of Canso, Guysboro County, Nova Scotia, who, as reported by the Foreign Board that year, had organized thirty-three societies with a membership of over five hundred, each paying into the treasury at least \$1.00 per year. The first of these Aid Societies was established on June 18th, 1870, at Canso, and that was speedily followed by those at Amherst and Halifax, Nova Scotia; Saint John, New Brunswick and other centres. With indefatigable zeal the young lady went from place to place arousing the interest of the women of the churches in the condition of their sisters in heathen lands until the requisite funds had been raised to send her forth as their representative in the foreign field.

A GOOD YEAR'S WORK.—The Board also reported that they had transmitted to the Board of the A. B.

M. Un'on, during the year, funds for the support of twenty-three native laborers, besides the salary of Miss DeWolfe, and \$2,300 for the outfit and salary of Rev. William George and wife for one year—a total expenditure of \$4,847.08.

1871. BIRTH OF INDEPENDENT MISSION. In 1871 a committee appointed the previous year to enquire into the possibility of establishing an independent foreign mission, reported to the Convention that such an undertaking was feasible and practicable, and recommended that in the spirit of Carey's world-renowned motto, "Attempt great things for God and expect great things from God," it to be undertaken and prosecuted with vigorous, united, and persistent effort. A few points in that report are worthy of preservation, as they mainly form the basis upon which the operations of the Foreign Missionary Board of the Maritime Provinces have been conducted :

1. Missionaries to receive the best culture, general and theological, which can be furnished.

2. At least one member of the missionary corps to be thoroughly indoctrinated in sound modern science, and practically versed in scientific manipulation.

3. The most cordial relationship and good fellowship to be maintained with the A. B. M. Union and its missionaries, and in view of their long experience, their views and opinions always to be treated with deference, and the most respectful consideration given to their advice.

4. Systematic arrangements to be made for the

development of the resources of the denomination, and the regular diffusion of missionary intelligence; collecting agencies to be everywhere instituted and kept in continual employment.

6. The plans adopted for prosecuting the whole work to present such a happy combination of skill and vigor as to secure that measure of success which God is accustomed to grant to devout and faithful workers, and, by God's help, to persevere in unflinching labor, sustained by believing prayer.

The field of operations was to be the Sgau Karen people of Burmah and Siam.

The report was adopted, and a new Board appointed with its location at Saint John, New Brunswick. At the closing meeting, a young man stood up in the midst of the assembly and said, "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have I give to this blessed cause; I give myself."

During this year Miss Norris joined Miss DeWolfe in Burmah, and although supported, together with Rev. W. George and wife by the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces they were virtually under the direction of the American Baptist Mission Union—an arrangement which continued through the following year, when Miss DeWolfe returned home on account of failing health. She subsequently became the wife of the Rev. Joshua T. Eaton.

1873. THE NEW STAFF OF MISSIONARIES. The great question, Where shall our mission be established? was that which occupied the thoughts of the Board, and at last, mainly through the recommendation of Rev. C. H. Carpenter, it was deter-

mined to undertake work among the Karens, Laos, and other tribes in the kingdom of Siam. This decision was ratified by Convention in 1873, and the following were introduced to the body as missionaries elect, to go forth at once to their appointed labors :

Rev. Rufus Sanford and wife.
 Rev. Wm. F. Armstrong.
 Rev. George Churchill.
 Miss M. F. Faulkner.
 Miss Miria Armstrong.
 Miss Flora Eaton.

COURTESIES BY THE WAY.—On their way to India these missionaries were received most cordially by the churches of England and Scotland, members of which made generous donations to the funds of the body.

1874. THE STAFF INCREASED.—In 1874 the staff was increased by the addition of the Rev. W. B. Boggs.

It may be here stated that Miss Norris became the wife of Rev. W. F. Armstrong ; Miss Faulkner, the wife of Rev. George Churchill ; Miss Eaton, the wife of Rev. W. B. Boggs ; and Miss Armstrong, the wife of Rev. Geo. F. Currie, of the Ontario Board of Baptist Foreign Missions.

PROSPECTING: ANXIOUS TIMES.—Shortly after the arrival of Rev. W. B. Boggs at Maulmain, he and Rev. G. Churchill started by steamer for Bangkok, sailing around the Malay Peninsula. At the same

time the Rev. Messrs. Sanford and Armstrong started overland to reach the northern part of the kingdom by rounding the head of the Gulf of Siam. Their object was to explore the country for Karen settlements, and report upon sites for the permanent establishment of mission stations. After some months the two parties met at Rahang, on the head waters of the Menam River, returned to Bangkok, and thence back to Rangoon, where they prepared and sent home a joint letter on the result of their tour of observation and outgrowing conclusions.

A DIFFICULT PROBLEM.—In this letter it was set forth with much detail that the number of Karens in Siam was very small, and their settlements so scattered, or so far removed from channels of communication as to render them almost inaccessible. The conclusion reached was that it would not be wise to make any further efforts looking to the establishment of a mission to the Karens of Siam.

Attention was next directed to a mission for the Siamese proper ; and on this point it was shown that the missionaries would receive great assistance from Rev. Dr. Dean and others connected with the mission to the Chinese in Siam. The want of books, the length of time necessary to obtain a fair knowledge of the language, and the fact that two of the missionaries were already well versed in Karen, led to the conclusion that the disadvantages of such a mission would more than outbalance the favorable considerations referred to.

A third plan suggested was the joint occupation of the Telugu field with the brethren of Ontario and Quebec. The point previously made in regard to language, on the Siam project, still held good in this plan, and there were the added disadvantages of the absence of organic union of the Home Boards ; the fact that six missionary societies had already established operations there ; and, further, the cost of supporting a mission on that field would be very great.

There was, however, another course of which they strongly approved, namely, to take up work among the Karens and Burmese of the country in which they then were, especially as two important stations were then open—Ma-oo-ben and Thayet-myo—with the great prospective opening of Independent Burmah to the missionaries at those stations. This offer had come from the Burman Baptist Convention, and would, it was believed, be approved by the A. B. M. Union.

Action by the denomination in regard to a solution of the difficulties in which the missionaries found themselves was forcibly pressed upon the Board.

1875. A SPECIAL CONVENTION—FIELD SELECTED—So urgent had the question of settlement for the mission become, that a special Convention was called on May 12th, 1875, at which this letter was read, as was also an offer from the Baptist Foreign Missionary Board of Ontario and Quebec, to join with

them in the conduct of a mission to the 'Telugus in the Presidency of Madras. The outcome of this gathering was that the Board was directed to request the missionaries to cross the Bay of Bengal at once and occupy that part of the Telugu field not already taken up by the A. B. M. Union and the Board of Foreign Missions of Ontario and Quebec. This was done, and at the regular meeting of Convention in August a telegram was received by the President from the missionaries, as follows :

"COCANDA. All here except Miss Armstrong. Joyfully working. R. SANFORD."

From this time forward the work of giving the Gospel to the Telugus has been vigorously prosecuted.

STATIONS SELECTED.—Four stations were selected, namely : Bimlipatam and Vizianagram, in the Vizagapatam District ; Kotopaud, in the Jeypore District ; and Kimidi, in the Gamjan District ; and it was confidently hoped that at these places the missionaries would establish their homes at once, and make them the centres of light and power.

MYSTERIOUS PROVIDENCES.—But their faith and that of the friends of missions in the homeland was yet to be tested to prove of what sort it was. The health of Revs. W. B. Boggs and G. Churchill broke down under the strain of the long journeys of exploration and exposure to the heats of the tropical climate. The former, with his wife, returned home;

and the latter, leaving his wife at Madras, sailed away to Australia to seek recovery in a milder temperature. It was also found that Jeypore was environed by a fever belt, and that Vizanagram had long been the seat of the missionary operations of another Board. Even Kimidi had to be abandoned and the mission family at that place removed to the town of Chicacole, near the coast. Withal, there was a great famine in the land.

RISING HOPES.—"Cast Down" the people at home certainly were, but not "in despair;" and as hope brightened with unwavering faith, the clouds began to clear away, and new visions of prosperous work appeared. Mr. Churchill's health was restored and he returned to establish a station at Bobbili. Thus, with Mr. Sanford at Bimlipatam, and Mr. Armstrong at Chicacole, the work progressed. Land was secured; homes were built; schools established; orphans taken in and cared for; chapels erected; and sub-stations in surrounding villages placed in charge of native assistants.

LOSS OF REV. W. B. BOGGS.—For a time Rev. Mr. Boggs, having regained his health, visited the home churches and assiduously and successfully labored to strengthen the missionary interest. The Board, however, with deep regret, could not see their way to re-appointing him to active service abroad.

Thereupon he placed himself at the disposal of the Board of the A. B. M. Union, was appointed to their own Telugu mission, and ever since has proved him-

self to be an able and successful missionary of the cross.

1878. ANOTHER MISSIONARY—MISS C. A. HAMMOND.—In the latter part of 1878 the staff of workers was strengthened by the addition of Miss Carrie A. Hammond, who, upon reaching India, assumed the superintendence of the schools at Bimlipatam. This work she continued to carry on, in addition to an extensive effort for women in the zenanas and among the low castes in the surrounding villages, until the spring of 1880, when the Rev. Mr. Armstrong and family, having to return home, she was placed in full charge of the Chicacole station. This was a trying position for a young, unmarried woman who had been only about a year and a half in India; but she faithfully executed the arduous duties of her office—managed the business of a large and important station with great fidelity and economy—directed the corps of preachers, teachers and Bible women—superintended the boarding and day schools—made tours over the field of her operations—and, in addition, carried forward the systematic study of the Scriptures with her helpers. In a word, “proved herself to be a workman that need not be ashamed.”

1881. APPOINTMENT OF REV. J. R. HUTCHINSON, AND RETIREMENT OF REV. W. F. ARMSTRONG—In December, 1881, she was relieved by the arrival of the Rev. J. R. Hutchinson and wife, and the following year returned to Bimlipatam. This latter appointment had been rendered necessary by the withdrawal of

Rev. Mr. Armstrong from the service of the Board.

SERVICES RECOGNIZED.—To mark the estimation placed upon Miss Hammond's valuable labors during this trying period, the Board recorded on its minutes the following resolution which was reported to Convention and unanimously endorsed by that body :

" Resolved, That the hearty thanks of the Board be tendered to Miss Hammond for her faithful and self-sacrificing labor while in charge of the station at Chicacole, from the departure of the Rev. Wm. F. Armstrong until the arrival of Rev. J. R. Hutchinson, during which period the work has not only been sustained, but vigorously prosecuted with the most satisfactory results :

" And further resolved, That the Foreign Missionary Board record its deep sympathy with Miss Hammond in her present infirm state of health, and urge upon her to take such a rest, as under direction of her medical adviser may be found necessary to effect a complete restoration."

1883. **REINFORCEMENT.**—On January 2nd, 1883, the mission was still further strengthened by the arrival in India of Rev. I. C. Archibald, and in October of that year he married Miss Hammond.

1884. **TWO UNMARRIED MISSIONARIES.**—Misses A. C. Gray and Miss H. H. Wright—On January 3, 1884, Miss A. C. Gray and Miss H. H. Wright reached the field ; the former to take charge of the school work at Bimlipatam, and the latter to prosecute special work among the Telugu women at Chicacole.

RETURN OF REVS. MESSRS. SANFORD AND CHURCHILL.—During this year and that following,

the home work was greatly advanced by the return of Messrs. Churchill and Sanford, with their wives and families. Their visits among the churches brought them very near to the thousands who, heretofore, had looked at it from afar, and many were stimulated to give freely to carry it on with renewed and largely increased vigor. They returned to their fields in the fall of 1886.

While Messrs. Sanford and Churchill were at home on furlough, their fields were cared for by Rev. I. C. Archibald, during which time Pedda Penkie was established as an out-station to Bobbili, and Raiga as an out-station to Bimlipatam.

1887. RETURN AND RETIREMENT OF REV. J. R. HUTCHINSON.—In the spring of 1887 the Rev. Mr. Hutchinson and family returned to this country, and in the following year he withdrew from the service of the Board. Rev. I. C. Archibald was transferred to Chicacole, where he remained until the fall of 1890. During this period a church was organized at Tekkali, and out-stations established at Palcondah, Calingapatam, and Cassibugga.

1889. REINFORCEMENTS: Rev. W. V. Higgins and Wife; Miss N. Fitch.—In 1889 the mission was re-inforced by the appointment of the Rev. W. V. Higgins and wife, and Miss Nettie Fitch, who reached the field in the latter part of that year.

1890. LOSS OF MISS FITCH.—In June, 1890, Miss Fitch became the wife of Rev. Mr. Laflamme, a missionary of the Ontario Board, and her services thereafter were lost to the Board.

NEW STATION. PURCHASE AT VIZIANAGRAM.--
The London Missionary Society, who, for a generation, had carried on work at Vizianagram, offered their property at that place to this Board at a comparatively low figure, and it was purchased and occupied by Rev. Mr. Higgins and his wife shortly after they reached the field.

REV. M. B. SHAW AND WIFE SENT OUT.—Return of Rev. I. C. Archibald and Wife, and Miss Wright.—Change.—In 1890 the Rev. M. B. Shaw and wife were sent forth, and Rev. Mr. Archibald and wife returned home for rest and recuperation, as also did Miss Wright. Mr. Shaw went to Vizianagram, and Mr. Higgins took charge of the work at Chicacole.

1891. FIVE MORE MISSIONARIES.—THE MISSION MAJORITY. In 1891 the Rev. J. H. Barss and wife, Rev. L. D. Morse and wife, and Miss Kate MacNeil were sent out, thus completing the staff for the full twenty years of the life of the independent mission.

1892. THE CAREY CENTENNIAL.—Changes in administration. Furlough of Mr. Sanford. Return to India of Rev. I. C. and Mrs. Archibald and Miss H. H. Wright.—The year 1892 will ever be memorable in Foreign Mission annals, especially among Baptists. Just one hundred years ago William Carey began a movement which sent a thrill through Christian England. It was nothing less than the attempt to win the world to Jesus

Christ. To the Baptists is assigned the honor of organizing for this high purpose.

The event was celebrated in these Provinces by the endeavor to raise at least \$6,000 for Foreign Missions, to be devoted to the establishment of mission stations and their equipment. The response was quite general, and resulted in the raising of \$5,439.01. The bungalow at Parla-Kimedy was built and fully equipped, much to the joy of Mr. Higgins, the missionary in charge of that station.

SECRETARY-TREASURER.—During this year the Board made a change in the administration of its affairs. Heretofore the work had been performed by two brethren whose time was fully taken up with other duties; but it was felt that the work of the Board was of such a nature that the whole time of one man should be given to it. Rev. J. W. Manning, pastor of the North Baptist church of Halifax, was elected to that office, and entered upon his duties in August.

Early in this year Rev. R. Sanford became so broken in health that he was compelled to return to this country for a prolonged furlough. He arrived in St. John with his family in May.

Rev. I. C. and Mrs. Archibald having completed their furlough returned to India in October. They were accompanied by Miss H. H. Wright.

1893. RETIREMENT OF REV. J. H. BARSS.—A new station was opened this year at Palcondah, to which Rev. J. H. Barss and wife were appointed.

A temporary home for the missionary and his family had been built, and it looked as if a step in advance was taken ; but the health of Mrs. Barss became so impaired that Mr. Barss was compelled to leave the country in order to save her life. In November he severed his connection with the Board.

1894. RE-INFORCEMENTS. WITHDRAWALS.—The continued ill-health of Mr. Sanford and the retirement of Mr. and Mrs. Barss gave much concern to the friends of missions. It was evident that the staff of workers in the field must be increased. The pioneers could not be expected to stand much longer the constant strain upon their energies. In the autumn of this same year Rev. H. Y. Corey and wife and Miss Martha Clark of Prince Edward Island were sent to the front to re-inforce the little band of faithful toilers.

Rev. M. B. Shaw, who was stationed at Vizianagram and had been in the country nearly five years, was compelled to leave India on account of the serious illness of his wife. Instead of returning to these Provinces Mr. Shaw sought a home and a pastorate in California. He promptly relieved the Board of his support. Miss Kate McNeil, who had acquired a good working knowledge of the Telugu language, also withdrew from the mission. She was married to the Rev. C. R. Marsh, of the American Baptist Missionary Union.

1895. RETURN OF REV. R. SANFORD.—The health of Mr. Sanford having greatly improved, he

was very anxious to be returned to his loved work. The wisdom of this was questioned by many, but so strong was the conviction of the brother as to his duty that the Board agreed to send him back provided two competent physicians should certify to his fitness for service. This was obtained, and in the autumn of 1895 Mr. Sanford sailed for India and took charge of the station at Vizianagram, which had just been vacated by Rev. H. Y. Corey. God has honored the faith of this beloved missionary by enabling him to render most efficient service since his arrival in that country.

1896. FAMINE RELIEF. ILLNESS OF MRS. HIGGINS. RETURN TO THE HOME LAND OF MR. AND MRS. HIGGINS AND MISS GRAY. RE-INFORCEMENTS.—The great distress in India on account of the failure in the crops, due to the lack of rain, appealed to the sympathy of the Christian public both in Europe and America.

As the people on our own mission field were more or less affected by the famine, the churches in these Provinces were asked to forward their contributions through the Foreign Mission Board, who would transmit them direct to the missionaries. The response was quite general. The total amount contributed in this way was \$2,478.06, which proved a great blessing to the mission in many ways.

The health of the missionaries as a whole was good. It was not long, however, before it was seen

that Mrs. Higgins was failing. Her stay in the country was only a question of time. At last, with the concurrence of the missionaries on the ground, Mr. Higgins and family set sail for the home land. To them the taking of this step was a great disappointment. They arrived in this country in April, 1896. Rev. H. Y. Corey succeeded Mr. Higgins at Parla-Kimedy. Miss A. C. Gray, the lady missionary in Bimlipitam, who had been in the country for eleven years, felt that the time had come for a furlough. In this the Board fully concurred. She returned in May.

These frequent changes in the staff had a depressing effect upon the workers at home and abroad. The faith of many was sorely tried. Appeals from the missionaries for re-inforcements were many and urgent. Rev. R. E. Gullison, pastor of the Lower Aylesford church, had it in his heart to give himself to foreign mission work at no distant day. He was urged to consider the matter in the light of present duty. The question was soon settled. He offered his services to the Board which were accepted. At the same time Miss Maud E. Harrison and Miss Ida M. Newcomb were also received as fellow-workers. The former was a recent graduate of Acadia Seminary and the latter a successful school teacher in her native province. Both of them had taken a course in the Chicago Training School. These sailed from Halifax in October for their future home in India.

1897. RESIGNATION OF MISS WRIGHT. RETURN TO INDIA OF MR. HIGGINS AND APPOINTMENT OF MR. JOHN HARDY AND MISS MABEL E. ARCHIBALD. —After eleven years of faithful service Miss H. H. Wright, owing to failing health was compelled to withdraw from the work. In July, 1897, she tendered her resignation, which was accepted by the Board. Miss Wright is residing at present with friends in St. Stephen.

Rev. Mr. Higgins, who had been engaged in visiting the churches during his stay at home and had been very successful in this connection, returned to India in the autumn. The health of his wife was not sufficiently restored to enable her to accompany him.

Mr. John Hardy, an undergraduate of Acadia University, was accepted by the Board under certain conditions as a suitable candidate for service abroad, and upon the recommendation of the W. B. M. U. Miss Mabel E. Archibald, a recent graduate of the same Institution, was added to the missionary staff. They sailed from Rimouski in November.

1898. A NEW STATION. A MISSION HOUSE STARTED. A FURTHER ADDITION TO THE STAFF AND A HOSPITAL ERECTED.—At the Conference in January, 1898, the great Chicacole field was again divided and a new field was set off, with Tekkali as its chief centre. It embraces all the northern part of the Telugu country and has a population of

about 370,000. Mr. Higgins is the missionary in charge.

By means of famine relief funds a beginning was made in the erection of mission premises which will be completed as soon as the necessary funds can be obtained. The W. B. M. Union voted \$1,300 toward this object. The buildings will cost at least \$2,500 or \$3,000. This will make the seventh station since our work began among the Telugus in 1875.

In April, Miss Helena Blackadar, a teacher in Wayland Seminary, Washington, D. C., and also a graduate of Acadia University, was accepted as a missionary to the Telugus.

The missionaries at Chicacole had felt for a long time the need of a Hospital for women and children, but the work of the mission had not assumed such proportions as to warrant any diversion of funds from the Home land for the establishment of such an institution. Several friends resident in the town of Chicacole were led by the missionaries in charge of this station (Mr. and Mrs. Archibald) to take a warm interest in the proposed Hospital. A building suitable for such a purpose has been erected partly by famine funds, and quite a respectable sum has been pledged towards its support. The cost per year to carry on the work will be about \$600, of which at least one half will be contributed by friends in Chicacole. The undertaking has gotten so far along that its success is assured.

SUMMARY.

The following summary will show at a glance the present condition of the mission so far as relates to field and workers. Stations—I. Bimlipitam; II. Chicacole; III. Bobbili; IV. Vizianagram; V. Parla-Kimedy; VI. Palcondah; VII. Tekkali.

I. BIMLIPATAM.

Established, 1878.

Population of town, 9,000.

Population of field, 250,000.

Villages, 275.

Outstation, Polepilly.

Missionaries.	Departure to India.
Rev. L. D. Morse, - - -	1891.
Mrs. L. D. Morse, - - -	1891.
Miss Ida M. Newcomb, - -	1896.
Native helpers, 5.	

II. CHICACOLE.

Established, 1878.

Population of town, 18,000.

Population of field, 293,301.

Outstation, Calingapatam.

Villages, 444.

Missionaries.	Departure to India.
Rev. I. C. Archibald, - -	1882.
Mrs. I. C. Archibald, - -	1878.
Miss Martha Clark, - -	1894.
Miss Mabel E. Archibald, - -	1898.
Native helpers, 12.	

III. BOBBILI.

Established, 1879.

Population of town, 18,000.

Population of field, 260,360.

Villages, 400.

Outstations, Rajam, Chekkagurda.

Missionaries.	Departure to India.
Rev. R. E. Gullison, - - -	1896.
Mrs. R. E. Gullison, - - -	1896.
Miss Maud E. Harrison, - - -	1896.
Native helpers, 9.	

IV. VIZIANAGRAM.

Established, 1889.

Population of town, 27,000.

Population of field, 285,000.

Villages, 400.

Outstations : Gujapatanagram, Bhimasingi, Chipurapalli.

Missionaries.	Departure to India.
Rev. R. Sanford, - - -	1873.
Native Helpers, 8.	

V. PARLA-KIMEDY.

Established, 1892.

Population of town, 10,000.

Population of field, 317,974.

Villages, 2,300.

Outstation, Akulatampara

Missionaries.	Departure to India.
Rev. H. Y. Corey, - - -	1894.
Mrs. H. Y. Corey, - - -	1894.
Native helpers, 7.	

VI. PALCONDAH.

Established, 1892.

Population of town, 10,000.

Population of field, 212,365.

Villages, 470.

Outstations, ————

Missionaries, Rev. I. C. Archibald, (in charge).

Native helpers, 3.

VII. TEKKALI.

Established, 1898.

Population of town, 8,000.

Population of field, 380,000.

Villages, 800.

Outstation, Casibugga.

Missionaries.

Departure to India.

Rev. W. V. Higgins, - - - 1889.

Mr. John Hardy, - - - 1898.

Native helpers, 4.

ON FURLOUGH.

Missionaries.

Departure to India.

Rev. Geo. Churchill, - - - 1873

Mrs. Geo. Churchill, - - - 1873

Mrs. R. Sanford, - - - 1873

Mrs. W. V. Higgins, - - - 1889

Miss A. C. Gray, - - - 1884

Churches, 7. Membership, 314. Association, 1.

The missionaries of this Board meet in a conference once a year, in January, and also unite with their brethren in the field to the south in an annual

conference under the title of "The Canadian Baptist Telugu Conference."

Thus will be seen how the work has grown since 1875. Material progress has been made. Churches have been established. Bungalows have been built and well equipped. A devoted band of faithful men and women are at work. We can see the results in some particulars, but only eternity will reveal the good that has been done to, and for, the millions of perishing Telugus who are dependent upon the Baptists of these Maritime Provinces for a knowledge of "the way of life."

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the Foreign Mission Board of the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces the sum of \$ out of my estate, to be paid without any charge or reduction whatever, and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board of the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces shall constitute and be a sufficient discharge thereof.

WOMAN'S WORK.

This historical sketch would be by no means complete if it omitted a more special reference to the work which has been carried on by the Circles, Aid Societies, and other organizations in which the liberality, zeal and energy of the Baptist women of the Maritime Provinces have found scope for development. The deep interest shown by women in the earlier history of the Baptists here, culminated in the year 1870 in the establishment of Women's Missionary Aid Societies, in the leading centres of Baptist influence. Beginning with the work of Miss Hannah Maria Norris, at Canso, N.S., it has extended through almost all denominations in Canada.

These societies at once undertook the support of two female missionaries whom the Missionary Board had sent to Burmah. The local societies worked under the direction of a Central Board for each of the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, which were established upon the recommendation of the Foreign Missionary Board in 1870. The original officers were as follows :

Nova Scotia :

Mrs. Twining,
Mrs. A. Smith,
Mrs. D. Ellis,
Mrs. A. W. Clarke,
Mrs. S. Selden, Secretary,
Mrs. McCully, Treasurer.

New Brunswick :

Mrs. Pettingell, President.
Mrs. H. Humphrey, Secretary.
Mrs. Wm. Allwood, Treasurer.
Mrs. T. Harley, Mrs. E. C. Cady.

Mrs. Selden continued to hold the office of Secretary of the N. S. Central Board until the formation of the Woman's Baptist Missionary Union in 1884.

Mrs. H. Humphrey retained the Secretaryship of the N. B. Central Board for about eight months, and was succeeded by Mrs. L. L. Cunningham, who held it until 1875, when the work was taken up by Mrs. John March, who, after the union of all the Central Boards in 1884, became the General Secretary, and so continued till the close of 1891.

In 1874, a Central Board was organized for Prince Edward Island, with the following officers :

Mrs. James Desbrisay, President.

Mrs. James Warren, Vice-President.

Miss M. Davies, Secretary.

James Desbrisay, Treasurer.

Through the years many changes took place in the *personnel* of the Boards, but, as a rule, the efficient officers were retained and were still faithfully serving the cause when the three organizations were merged into the more important and widely extended operations of the Woman's Baptist Missionary Union.

From 1881 there had been a growing feeling that a closer relationship should exist between the women who were working in the one foreign missionary interest than seemed possible with three separate Boards, whose limits of operation were the geographical boundaries of the respective provinces. Year by year the necessity for this union was discussed in the women's meetings, and in 1884, chiefly by the indefatigable labors of Mrs. Geo. Churchill, wife of one of the missionaries, then home on furlough,—all objections and difficulties were removed and the separate Boards gave place to the Woman's

Baptist Missionary Union. Its chief features are :

1. It secures the united action of the Aid Societies of the three provinces.
2. It is representative—its members consisting of delegates from the local Aid Societies.
3. It reserves to itself the power to appropriate its own funds ; whilst
4. It pledges itself to appropriate its funds to such objects as are undertaken by the Foreign Missionary Board.

The Executive Board consisted of the following officers, and twenty-four other members :

Mrs. M. W. Williams, President.

Mrs. J. E. Hopper, Mrs. J. F. Parsons, Mrs. A. H. Lavers,
Vice-Presidents.

Mrs. John March, Corresponding Secretary.

Mrs. J. W. Manning, Treasurer.

Mrs. E. M. Saunders, Auditor.

Mrs. S. Selden, Secretary for Nova Scotia.

Mrs. H. R. Emerson, Secretary for New Brunswick.

Miss L. A. King, Secretary for Prince Edward Island.

Out of the thirty-four members who formed this first Board, all continue actively interested in the cause to which, in 1884, they gave their best thought and service, save two—Mrs. S. Selden and Mrs. J. F. Parsons—who have received the reward of the faithful. The former died in June, 1890, and the latter six months later, both deeply regretted.

Mrs. Williams resigned the presidency in 1889.

The Board, as constituted August, 1891, was as follows :

Mrs. J. W. Manning, President.

Mrs. Wm. Hall, Mrs. G. O. Gates, Mrs. John Clarke,
Vice-Presidents.

Mrs. Botsford Smith, Treasurer.

Mrs. John March, Corresponding Secretary.

Miss A. E. Johnston, Secretary for Nova Scotia.
 Mrs. A. H. Martell, Secretary for New Brunswick.
 Miss M. C. Davies, Secretary for Prince Edward Island.

The work undertaken by the Executive for the centennial year of missions covered the following objects:

Outfit, salary, and travelling of missionaries,	\$3,525 00
Building at Kimidi, - - - - -	1,000 00
Schools and boarders, - - - - -	815 00
Bible-women, colportage, etc., - - - - -	600 00
Home literature, - - - - -	60 00
	<hr/>
	\$6,000 00

In addition they contribute to missions in the	
North West Territories of Canada, - - -	\$600 00
Grande Ligne Missions, - - - - -	150 00
Home Missions in the Maritime Provinces, -	750 00
	<hr/>

A total of - - - - - \$7,500 00

IN 1890 WE HAVE REPORTED 166 WOMAN'S MISSION-
 ARY AID SOCIETIES:

Nova Scotia, - - -	107
New Brunswick, - - -	47
Prince Edward Island, - - -	12
Life Members, - - -	143

OFFICERS OF THE W. B. M. U. FOR 1898:

PRESIDENT: Mrs. J. W. Manning, St. John, N. B.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

New Brunswick—Mrs. W. E. McIntyre, Chipman, N. B.

Nova Scotia—Mrs. P. R. Foster, Arcadia, Yar. Co., N. S.

P. E. Island—Mrs. David Price.

TREASURER: Mrs. Mary Smith, Amherst, N. S.

SECRETARY: Mrs. Henry Everett, St. John, N. B.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARIES:

Miss A. E. Johnstone, Dartmouth, N. S.

Mrs. Margaret Cox, Chipman, Queens Co., N. B.

Miss Annie Jackson, Cavendish, P. E. I.

AUDITOR: Hon. T. R. Black.

SECRETARY OF BUREAU OF LITERATURE:

Miss Margaret Wood, Amherst, N. S.

EDITOR OF TIDINGS: Miss Bessie Harding, Amherst, N. S.

EDITOR OF COLUMN IN MESSENGER AND VISITOR :
 Mrs. J. W. Manning, assisted by Mrs. Golding, St. John.
 MARITIME CORRESPONDENT TO MISSIONARY LINK :
 Miss A. E. Johnstone, Dartmouth, N. S.

ESTIMATES FOR 1898-'99.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Four lady missionaries salary and work, -	\$2,275
Mr. Morses' salary, - - - - -	1,200
Books and Tracts, - - - - -	100
Schools, - - - - -	250
Helpers and Bible-women, - - - - -	500
Home literature, - - - - -	75
Contingent Fund, - - - - -	250
Tekkali Building Fund, - - - - -	1,300
Salaries, male missionaries - - - - -	1,350
School at Bobbili, - - - - -	100
Hospital at Chicacole, - - - - -	100

\$7,500

ESTIMATES FOR HOME MISSIONS.

North West, - - - - -	\$600
Indian work, N. W., - - - - -	200
Home Missions in Nova Scotia and P. E. I., -	450
Home Missions in New Brunswick, - - - - -	350
Grande Ligne, - - - - -	400

\$2,000

Total estimates for the year, \$9 500.

In 1898 there were reported 248 Woman's Missionary Societies :

Nova Scotia, - - - - -	145
New Brunswick, - - - - -	82
Prince Edward Island, - - - - -	21

Life members, 333. Total membership about 6,000.

There were also reported 76 Mission Bands :

Nova Scotia, - - - - -	45
New Brunswick, - - - - -	21
Prince Edward Island, - - - - -	10

Money reported, \$10,798.03.

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

1898-'99.

REV. J. A. GORDON, President.

E. M. SIPPRELL, Vice-President.

REV. J. W. MANNING, Secretary-Treasurer.

RETIRING IN 1899.

REV. A. H. LAVERS,

R. C. ELKIN,

REV. J. H. HUGHES,

REV. J. D. FREEMAN,

MONT. McDONALD.

RETIRING IN 1900.

THOMAS S. SIMMS,

THOMAS L. HAY,

E. L. RISING,

IRA B. KEIRSTEAD,

REV. J. A. GORDON.

RETIRING IN 1901.

REV. J. W. MANNING,

REV. G. O. GATES,

REV. W. B. HINSON,

REV. M. C. HIGGINS,

E. M. SIPPRELL.